



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Board Of Physical Therapy Examiners

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2010

The April 20, 2010 meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the Chairperson, Margery Rodgers, PT.

Call to Order

Board members present:

John Baker, PT
Ved K. Gupta, Consumer Member
Shirley Leeper, PTA, Vice Chairperson
Lori Mizell, PT
Donald Novak, PT
Lois Rosedom-Boyd, Consumer Member
Stephen Ryan, PT

Also present:

Ann E. Tyminski, Executive Director
Joy E. Aaron, Deputy Director
Patricia Miller, Licensing Coordinator
Sandra Kurland, Board Secretary
Deborah Jackson, Secretary
Ernest Bures, Investigator/Compliance Officer
Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel
Francesca Gibbs, Staff Attorney
Paula Hollinger
Pamela West, PT
Carolyn Mullen
Chesapeake Consortium PTA Students
Dave Thomas, PT, Chesapeake Consortium Program Director

Absent:

John Bull, Investigator

Patricia Miller, Licensing Coordinator, addressed the Chesapeake Consortium PTA students. Ms. Miller gave the students information on licensing.

Chesapeake Consortium

Margery Rodgers, PT, Board Chair welcomed the Chesapeake Consortium PTA students, and the Board members and staff introduced themselves.

Welcome

William Neill, Alice B. Rakowski, PT, Walter Mady, PT, and Jayne Gribble (Biafore), PT were moved to Closed Session.

Agenda

The minutes of the Open Session for March 16, 2010 were accepted as printed.

Minutes

Ann Tyminski received an e-mail from Debra Templeton, PTA, in reference to PTAs supervising PT Aides and the motto "pain=harm=abuse". The Board stated that PTAs can not supervise aides. The Board also stated that appropriate care should be given to the patient, with explanation of the treatment and documenting their responses. Mrs. Tyminski will respond in writing to Ms. Templeton.

PTAs
Supervising
Aides

With regard to Ms. Templeman's inquiry as making a change in the law to allow physical therapist assistants to supervise aides, especially when a PT calls in sick and there is not sufficient staff, the Board stated that the patient may be rescheduled if there is not enough staff available. PTAs may not supervise aides, and aides may not have their own workload.

Allowing
PTAs to
Supervise
Aides

Mrs. Tyminski presented an e-mail from Michael Rideout, PT, whose question was regarding PTs/PTAs leaving a patient unattended during the application of electrical stimulation. He asked about the E-Stim units having a PT safety ("kill" switch), and existing CPT codes for both "attended" and "unattended" E-Stim. The Board stated that the patient should be instructed to turn off the machine when there may be a problem and to call out to the PT or PTA who should be nearby. Mrs. Tyminski will send a response and include advise about the definition of attended and unattended CPT codes.

E-Stim

In an e-mail to Mrs. Tyminski, Rick Prothero, PT, referenced a physical therapy group waiving patient co-pays in order to entice patients to their practice. The Board stated that this is a billing issue. Mrs. Tyminski will respond and suggest a complaint be filed with the Insurance Commissioner about the practice that is waiving co-pays. This issue will be researched prior to writing the response.

Co-Pays

Mrs. Tyminski discussed the May 2010 election of officers. A copy of "Duties of the Board Chairperson" was distributed in the Board packet. Interested board members are to notify Mrs. Tyminski by May 11th, giving a brief outline of their qualifications to be Chair or Vice Chair. Ballots will be distributed at the May meeting.

Election of
Officers

Reports

Mr. Bures reported on his and Mr. Bull's visit to Friends Medical Laboratory, Inc. He stated that he was very impressed with their drug testing capabilities.

Friends
Laboratory

Mrs. Tyminski gave a Legislative update. The PT Bill did not pass. Mrs. Tyminski stated that if the Board wishes to submit the bill again next session, all Board members need to be involved in interacting with the legislature.

Legislative
Update

Jim Merrow, Executive Director of the Social Work Board, sent an e-mail to Executive Directors in reference to transfer language adopted by the Conference Committee on the Budgets. This last-minute transfer language will transfer over \$15,000 from the PT Board to a Governor's IT program. Ms. Hollinger stated she thought this transfer did not actually happen. Mrs. Tyminski will check with Mr. Merrow, who acts as fiscal liaison for the Health Occupations Boards.

Transfer
Language

Joy Aaron, Deputy Director, gave an update on the 2010 online renewals. She stated that we are about half way through, and there have been less problems than last year. As of April 21st, 1180 PTs and 269 PTAs have renewed.

2010 Online
Renewals

Joy Aaron, Deputy Director, read a very nice letter of apology from Eileen Salvi, PT in reference to her address fine.

Letter

Ann Tyminski reported on her visit to University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Ms. Tyminski stated that the students were having trouble finding jobs. Ms. Hollinger stated that was true of new graduates of nursing programs also. She cited the economy as one factor, with seasoned professionals going from part-time to full-time status and many others returning to the workforce.

University of
Maryland
Eastern Shore

Information:

A letter to the Office of the Attorney General from the Maryland Chiropractic Association was given to the Board. The letter is in response to the request by the Acupuncture Board of Examiners for a legal opinion regarding Dry Needling.

Dry Needling

An article on the Maryland Physicians Board regulations on Telemedicine was distributed to the Board.

Telemedicine

An updated list of Board Member's information was distributed.

Updated List

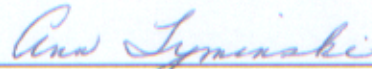
The Maryland Board of Chiropractic & Massage Therapy Examiners newsletter was also given to the Board.

Newsletter

A member of the public requested to be recognized to discuss a disciplinary matter. The Board denied that request since the disciplinary matter is confidential, and it would not be appropriate to engage in discussions with her in Open Session.

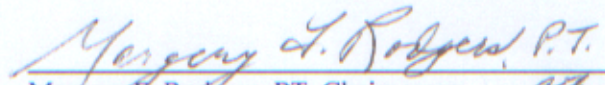
The Board unanimously voted to close the open session at 1:56 p.m. for the purpose of engaging in medical review committee deliberations of physical therapist applications in accordance with State Government Article S10-50 8(a) (13).

Respectfully submitted,



Ann Tyminski, Executive Director

May 18 2010
Date approved


Margery F. Rodgers, PT, Chairperson *ad*